(b) if so, the value of items for which two part tendering is done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps to avoid post tender negotiations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two part bids system is followed in a few specific cases where it is considered that precise specifications are not possible to be formulated and where 2 part bid system is considered advantageous. It is not related to value of procurement. Instructions already exist that post tender negotiations are permissible only in exceptional cases.

Direct Train between Bangalore-Shimoga

4382. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is direct train facility between Bangalore-Shimoga;

(b) if not, whether Government would take steps to introduce direct train between Bangalore-Shimoga to meet the great demand; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to add two more compartments to the existing Bangalore—Shimoga train also[0]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to introduce an overnight express train between Shimoga and Bangalore with effect from 01-7-2000 in lieu of 283/284 Bangalore—Shimoga Fast Passenger. This will provide an additional carrying capacity of 144 berths to Shimoga from Bangalore. Further, 227/228 Bangalore-Birur passenger will be extended to Shimoga to provide an additional train on this sector.

Compensation to passengers killed or injured in Train Accidents

† 4383. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial aid, as compensation, is provided for those passengers who get killed or injured due to train accidents, and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the total amount distributed as compensation during 1997-98 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total amount distributed as compensation to the dependants of the dead and injured passengers during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 was Rs. 19.27 crores.

Trains Accidents

† 4384. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 357 incidents of train accidents have been reported in the country during 1999;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the names of the regions where these accidents took place, alongwith the number of accidents in each region;

(c) whether the reasons for these accidents have been found out; and

(d) if so, the number of accidents that took place and reasons therefor and the number of passengers killed and injured in the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The total number of consequential train accidents during the year 1999 was 444.

(b) The number of accidents in each Zonal Railway during 1999 was as follows :—

Railway	No. of Accidents
Central Railway	81
Eastern Railway	32
Northern Railway	78
North Eastern Railway	24
Northeast Frontier Railway	63
Southern Railway	47
South Central Railway	33
South Eastern Railway	52
Western Railway	31
Konkan Railway Corporation	3
TOTAL	444

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.